DATA SOURCES

The STD surveillance systems operated by state and local STD control programs are the sources of California data in this publication. Case reports are submitted to local health jurisdictions in the form of laboratory reports and Confidential Morbidity Reports (CMRs). The local health jurisdictions then submit the data to the California Department of Health Services (CDHS). Submission of the data may be accomplished electronically in two ways. Most health jurisdictions either use the Automated Vital Statistics System (AVSS) communicable disease module, or enter case data into a non-AVSS database using regional office computers or STD surveillance unit staff support in Sacramento. A small number of health jurisdictions report case data through paper-based transactions (CMRs) or through a county-generated database.

Rates by county and selected city health jurisdictions were calculated using State of California, Department of Finance*, County Population Estimates and Components of Change, July 1, 2001–2002, with Historical 2000 and 2001 Estimates,* Sacramento, California, January 2003. Rates by age, race/ethnicity, and gender were calculated using State of California, Department of Finance*, Race/Ethnic Population Projections with Age and Sex Detail, 1970–2040*, Sacramento, CA, December 1998. In this report, data are presented by county and for the separate city health jurisdictions of Berkeley, Long Beach and Pasadena. The numbers for these cities are displayed separately from their respective county totals and are included in the county totals.

The race and ethnicity information listed and the corresponding census categories are Black (Black or African-American, non-Hispanic); Latino/Hispanic (Hispanic ethnicity, regardless of race designation); White (white, non-Hispanic); Asian/Pacific Islander (Asian or Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander, non-Hispanic); American Indian/Alaska Native (American Indian/Alaska Native, non-Hispanic); and Not Specified (no race or ethnicity information was available).